

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
VITAL STATISTICS, 1954 (PRELIMINARY)

7 All Rates
per 1000

The following preliminary particulars for 1954 are published subject to slight revision, with particulars for 1953 in parentheses.

Births Registered. - The number of births registered was 18,127 (18,156) being a decrease of 29 on the record number for 1953, and the birth rates per 1,000 of population were 22.74 (23.38). The average annual number of births for the 5 year period ended 1954 was 17,787 compared with 15,613 for the previous 5 year period showing a substantial increase, but the average annual birth rate was only 23.59 compared with 24.02.

Actual Births. A period of 42 days after birth is permitted for registration and the number of births registered in a year therefore differs from the number of births actually occurring during the year. The numbers of registered and actual births during recent years have been:- 1949 - 16,042 and 16,204, 1950 - 17,306 and 17,320; 1951 - 17,463 and 17,318, 1952 - 17,884 and 17,900; - 1953 - 18,156 and 18,175. The number of actual births for 1954 is not yet available.

Sexes of Births. The number of boys compared with 100 girls born does not vary greatly and in recent years has been:- 1950 - 105.39; 1951 - 105.45, 1952 - 104.55, 1953 - 106.11 and 1954 - 105.19

Adoptions. 423 (480) children were legally adopted during the year.

Legitimations numbered 63 (63).

Deaths Registered. 7,179 (6,962) an increase of 217 on the previous year and 5 less than the record total for 1951, the rate being 9.01 (8.97). The average annual death rate for the 5 year period ended 1954 was 9.31 compared with 9.80 for the previous period. The numbers dying from the various causes are not yet available for 1954 and hence comparisons cannot be made.

Infantile Mortality. Deaths of children under 1 year were 388 (375). The infantile death rate, or the number of deaths of children under 1 year per 1,000 births during the year of calculation was 21.40 which was only slightly higher than the record low rate of 20.65 in 1953, which was only slightly higher than the Australian record of 20.09 for Victoria in 1950. The S.A. rate is one of the lowest in the world and has shown a remarkable decrease. Eighty years ago it was 150, sixty years ago it was 100, thirty years ago it was 60 and 25 years ago it was more than double the present rate.

Still Births. These are not included in either births or deaths and they number 254 (287).

Marriages. The number of marriages celebrated was 6,190 (6,149) and the rate per 1,000 of population was 7.77 (7.92). The record number of marriages was 8,129 with a rate of 13.34 in 1942 and the lowest in recent years was 5,321 with a rate of 8.48 in 1945. Marriages in the Registration Office totalled 653 (707).

SUMMARY RETURN. The following return shows the number of births deaths and marriages, the rate per 1,000 of mean population, the number of infantile deaths and the rate per 1,000 births.

PERIOD	BIRTHS REGISTERED		MARRIAGES		DEATHS REGISTERED			
					Total		Infants	
	No.	Rate(a)	No.	Rate(a)	No.	Rate(a)	No.	Rate(b)
Mean								
1920-24	11,857	23.43	4,326	8.55	4,901	9.68	693	58.45
1925-29	11,301	20.16	4,225	7.54	5,034	8.98	526	46.54
1930-34	8,989	15.54	3,660	6.33	5,001	8.65	342	38.05
1935-39	9,039	15.32	5,305	8.99	5,430	9.20	297	32.85
1940-44	11,743	19.30	6,843	11.25	6,235	10.25	406	34.57
1945-49	15,613	24.02	6,328	9.73	6,369	9.80	427	27.33
1950-54	17,787	23.59	6,362	8.44	7,023	9.31	404	22.71
Year								
1950	17,306	24.39	6,585	9.28	6,740	9.50	416	24.04
1951	17,463	23.84	6,646	9.07	7,184	9.81	428	24.51
1952	17,884	23.68	6,241	8.27	7,050	9.34	413	23.09
1953	18,156	23.38	6,149	7.92	6,962	8.97	375	20.65
1954	18,127	22.74	6,190	7.77	7,179	9.01	388	21.40

(a) Per 1,000 of Mean Population.

(b) Per 1,000 Births.

*7 All Rates
1947 on*

See Births

A.W. BOWDEN,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.
21st February, 1955.